

What is claimed is:

1. A steroid inducible promoter expression system in a filamentous fungus, wherein the inducible promoter expression system can be modulated.
2. A steroid inducible promoter expression system in a filamentous fungus comprising a regulated gene expression cassette which comprises:
 - (a) a first promoter operatively linked to a regulator protein; and
 - (b) a regulatable promoter operatively linked to a target nucleic acid molecule, the regulatable promoter being activated by the regulator protein in the presence of an effective exogenous inducer, whereby administration of the inducer causes expression of the target nucleic acid molecule and removal or antagonizing of the inducer stops expression of the target nucleic acid molecule.
3. The steroid inducible promoter expression system of claim 1 or 2, wherein the regulator protein is expressed from a nucleic acid construct that is not physically linked to the nucleic acid molecule comprising the promoter region to which the regulator protein binds.
4. The steroid inducible promoter expression system of claim 2, wherein the regulatable promoter is an estrogen receptor.
5. The steroid inducible promoter expression system of claim 1 or 2 wherein the promoter further comprises a stuffer fragment for activation or repression.
6. A vector selected from the group consisting of pRM2085, pRM2124, pRM2119, pERE URA JUNK, pERE URA nirA and pERE JUNK nirA expressed in a filamentous fungus.

7. A steroid inducible promoter expression system of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the filamentous fungus is selected from the group consisting of *Aspergillus nidulans*, *Aspergillus niger*, *Aspergillus oryzae*, *A. awamori*, *A. chrysogenum*, *A. saitoi*, *A. tubigensis*, *Trichoderma reesei*, *T. viridae*, *T. harzianum*, *Trichoderma* sp., *Chrysosporium lucknowense*, *Fusarium* sp., *Fusarium gramineum*, *Fusarium venenatum*, *Mucor* sp., *Ashbya gossipii*, *Penicillium* sp., and *Neurospora crassa*.
8. A steroid inducible promoter expression system in unicellular yeast, wherein the inducible promoter expression system can be modulated.
9. A steroid inducible promoter expression system in a unicellular yeast comprising a regulated gene expression cassette which comprises:
 - (a) a first promoter operatively linked to a regulator protein; and
 - (b) a regulatable promoter operatively linked to a target nucleic acid molecule, the regulatable promoter being activated by the regulator protein in the presence of an effective exogenous inducer, whereby administration of the inducer causes expression of the target nucleic acid molecule and removal or antagonizing of the inducer stops expression of the target nucleic acid molecule.
10. The steroid inducible promoter expression system of claim 9 wherein the regulator protein is expressed from a nucleic acid construct that is not physically linked to the nucleic acid molecule comprising the promoter region to which the regulator protein binds.

11. The steroid inducible promoter expression system of claim 8 or 9 wherein the regulatable promoter is an estrogen receptor.
12. The steroid inducible promoter expression system of claim 8 or 9 wherein the promoter further comprises a stuffer fragment element for activation or repression.
13. A vector selected from the group consisting of pRM2085, pRM2124, pRM2119, pERE URA JUNK, pERE URA nirA and pERE JUNK nirA expressed in methylotrophic yeast.
14. A steroid inducible promoter expression system of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the unicellular yeast is selected from consisting of *Pichia pastoris*, *Pichia finlandica*, *Pichia trehalophila*, *Pichia koclamae*, *Pichia membranaefaciens*, *Pichia minuta* (*Ogataea minuta*, *Pichia lindneri*), *Pichia opuntiae*, *Pichia thermotolerans*, *Pichia salictaria*, *Pichia guercuum*, *Pichia piperi*, *Pichia stipitis*, *Pichia methanolica*, *Pichia* sp., *Hansenula polymorpha*, *Hansenula* sp., *Kluyveromyces* sp., *Kluyveromyces lactis*, *Candida albicans*, *Candida* sp. and *Torulopsis* sp.
15. A method for modulating gene expression in a filamentous fungus or a unicellular yeast comprising inducing a target nucleic acid molecule using a regulated gene expression cassette which comprising:
 - (a) a first promoter operatively linked to a regulator protein; and
 - (b) a regulatable promoter operatively linked to a target nucleic acid molecule, the regulatable promoter being activated by the regulator protein in the presence of an effective exogenous inducer, whereby administration of the

inducer causes expression of the target gene and removal or antagonizing of the inducer stops expression.

16. A filamentous fungus or a unicellular yeast comprising a steroid inducible expression system that can be modulated.
17. A filamentous fungus or a unicellular yeast of claim 16, wherein a target nucleic acid molecule is modulated by a regulatable gene expression cassette which comprising:
 - (a) a first promoter operatively linked to a regulator protein; and
 - (b) a regulatable promoter operatively linked to a target nucleic acid molecule, the regulatable promoter being activated by the regulator protein in the presence of an effective exogenous inducer, whereby administration of the inducer causes expression of the target gene and removal or antagonizing of the inducer stops expression.
18. A filamentous fungus or a unicellular yeast of claim 16 or 17, wherein the filamentous fungus is selected from the group consisting of *Aspergillus nidulans*, *Aspergillus niger*, *Aspergillus oryzae*, *A. awamori*, *A. chrysogenum*, *A. saitoi*, *A. tubigensis*, *Trichoderma reesei*, *T. viridae*, *T. harzianum*, *Trichoderma sp.*, *Chrysosporium lucknowense*, *Fusarium sp.*, *Fusarium gramineum*, *Fusarium venenatum*, *Mucor sp.*, *Ashbya gossipii*, *Penicillium sp.*, and *Neurospora crassa*.
19. A filamentous fungus or a unicellular yeast of claim 16 or 17 wherein the unicellular yeast is selected from consisting of *Pichia pastoris*, *Pichia finlandica*, *Pichia trehalophila*, *Pichia koclamae*, *Pichia membranaefaciens*,

Pichia minuta (*Ogataea minuta*, *Pichia lindneri*), *Pichia opuntiae*, *Pichia thermotolerans*, *Pichia salictaria*, *Pichia guercuum*, *Pichia pijperi*, *Pichia stipitis*, *Pichia methanolica*, *Pichia* sp., *Hansenula polymorpha*, *Hansenula* sp., *Kluyveromyces* sp., *Kluyveromyces lactis*, *Candida albicans*, *Candida* sp. and *Torulopsis* sp.